(c) and (d) Proposals for increase in the sanctioned strength of Delhi Judiciary is engaging the attention of Government in consultation with Delhi High Court.

Setting up of Industrial projects in backward areas of Orissa

69. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up some industrial projects in the backward and tribal areas of Orissa ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) the names of places where these projects are likely to be located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Industrialisation of a district is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, the Central Government supplement their efforts by providing Central incentives, concessional finance, exemption from income-tax, etc. to the entrepreneurs for setting up industries in backward areas. Details of these are given in the Booklet "Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas—April, 1984" read with Press Note No. 14/2/83-DBA-I, dated 9-4-1985, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. The Central investment are primarily in large industrial projects of a basic character. The location of such projects has, therefore, to be decided on broad techno-economic considerations. It has been the policy of the Government that subject to these considerations comparatively backward regions are given preference in the location of Central Projects. The numbers of letters of intent and industrial licences issued to backward districts/areas of Orissa during the three years 1982 to 1985 (up to September, 1985) are as follows.

Yea	Letters of Intent	Industrial Licences
1982. . .	25	2
1983. . .	12	5
1984. . .	7	5
1985. . . (up to September)	15	3

Details of these letters of intents/ industrial licences are being published in the monthly India Investment. News-letter, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Visit of Indian Delegation to Kuwait

70. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation from India had recently visited Kuwait and held discussion with the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries on promoting cooperation between its members and India ;

(b) if so, what are the details of these discussions and whether any agreements were entered into in this regard; and

(c) what benefits are likely to be derived as a result of this visit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The discussions between the Indian delegation and the OAPEC related to possible areas of cooperation between the member countries of the OAPEC and India, and the OAPEC institutions and the institutions in India in the following areas :—

(i) the utilisation of training capabilities available in India by the OAPEC member countries ;

(ii) utilisation of the research network established by the ONGC, EIL & IOC; and

(iii) bilateral and multilateral cooperation between the National Oil companies with a view to promoting self-reliance.

It was greed during the discussions that the cooperation between the OAPEC, its member countries and India would be strengthened further. This would result in a greater degree of self-reliance and cooperation amongst developing countries.

Pending cases in Supreme Court

71. DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of pending cases in Supreme Court of India as on the 31st October, 1985;

(b) how many cases are more than three years, old ;

(c) what steps are being taken for speedy disposal of pending cases in Supreme Court ;

(d) how many vacancies of Judges are there at present ;

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to fill up those vacancies ; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to introduce a computer in order to speed up justice and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Steps taken to reduce pendency are given in Statement.

(d) and (e) There are three vacancies at present. Filling up of these vacancies is engaging the attention of Government in consultation with Chief Justice of India.

(f) As per information furnished by the Registry of the Supreme Court, computer technology would be introduced to help in reducing the back-log of cases.

Statement

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in Supreme Court.

1. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgement of Single Judge of the High Court in second appeal (*vide* section 100A).

2. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.

3. The Judge strength of the Supreme Court has been raised from 13 to 17 excluding the Chief Justice with effect from 31-12-77 by amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.